# Montana Newsletter

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# MONTANA NEWSLETTER

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## LEGISLATURE INCREASES STATE LIBRARY APPROPRIATION, BUT STATE FUND INCREASE IS MORE THAN OFFSET BY LOSS OF FEDERAL LIBRARY SERVICES MONEY

House Bill 55, containing appropriations for all units of the State Department of Education (the university system, community colleges, vocational-technical centers, the Montana Historical Society, the Arts Council, and the State Library Commission) was passed in final form by the House and Senate on March 20.

Despite strong support (74-11 in the House and 29-14 in the Senate) for amendments to raise state general fund moneys to replace all lost LSCA funds, and near-unanimous support (only two dissenting votes) in the Senate for a further amendment to add funds for the second year of the LSCA-initiated federation demonstration in Phillips, Valley, Daniels, and Sheridan Counties, a conference committee on March 20 recommended funding to replace only a portion of the lost federal funds. The report of that committee was accepted by both the House and the Senate. The figures below show State Library appropriations for the 1973-75 biennium, contrasted with estimated expenditures for the 1971-73 biennium, and the expenditure level approved by both House and Senate prior to the conference committee action.

| | 1973 biennium (estimated: includes $893,111 in LSCA funds) | 1975 biennium (floor amendments rejected by conference committee) | 1975 biennium (conference committee: final action) |
|---|---|---|---|
| General Library Service* | 480,936 | 425,523 | 280,462 |
| Library Development (exclusive of grants)* | | 50,301 | 0 |
| Administration* | | 87,890 | 36,500 |
| Library Networks | 81,975 | 112,361 | 76,475 |
| Institution Library Service | 157,496 | 162,806 | 110,510 |
| Library Service to Handicapped | 85,769 | 144,779 | 144,779 |
| Grants to Libraries (state funds) | 0 | 70,000 | 0 |
| Grants to Libraries (federal funds) | 419,501 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1,225,677 | 1,016,660 | 648,726 |

*General Library Service, Library Development, and Administration were treated as one program through the 1973 biennium, but were separated beginning with the 1975 biennium, to give a more accurate picture of the Library's operating costs.

With 1975 appropriations so far below 1973 expenditures, it is inevitable that services of the State Library to the libraries of the state, to state government, and to state institutions cannot continue at their current level. The staff and members of the Library Commission will be working during the next several weeks to determine the best means of using available funds to serve the state.

OTHER LIBRARY LEGISLATION House Bill 540, providing for the establishment and operation of a joint city-county library, introduced by Representative Ainsworth, was signed into law by Governor Judge. The act became effective upon the Governor's signature, on March 10.

Senate Joint Resolution 31, requesting the Legislative Council to study the administration and finance of Montana libraries, and to make recommendations for legislation to the second session of the forty-third legislative assembly, was signed by Governor Judge on March 17. The resolution was introduced by Senators Hall, Turnage, Groff, Rosell, Devine, and Bertsche.

Final action on Senate Bill 54, appropriating money for capital projects, including $30,000 in pre-planning money for a new library and associated facilities at Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology, Butte, has not been taken at the time of this writing.

COLUMBIA FALLS LIBRARY OPENING The Board of Trustees of the Flathead County Library and the Board of Trustees of the Columbia Falls Library Association cordially invite librarians, trustees, and their families and friends to attend an open house from 2:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon on Sunday, April 8, 1973, at the new Columbia Falls Branch Library, 130 Sixth Street West, Columbia Falls.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENTS The Garfield County Library marked its 25th anniversary on March 8. From an initial collection of 534 books available on opening day, the Library has grown to over 3,500 volumes, and in addition is a member of the Sagebrush Federation of Libraries. Bookmobile service provided by the federation reaches five communities in the county, in addition to the County Library in Jordan.

Residents of several communities in Lewis and Clark County have attended recent meetings called by the County Commissioners to discuss possible city-county cooperation in providing library service to all residents of the county through the Helena Public Library. Helena City Librarian Clint Desonia has reported widespread favorable response to proposals for county library service. Jefferson County, which participated in the Big Sky Federation of Libraries from 1966 to 1971, has also been the scene of public meetings to discuss the possibility of service by contract from the Helena Public Library.

The bookmobile purchased with FY '72 LSCA funds for the Golden Plains Federation of Libraries (Phillips, Valley, Daniels, and Sheridan Counties) was delivered in February and will be in service in the four-county area by April 1.

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW MISSOULA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY A crowd of enthusiastic library supporters gathered at the site of the new city-county library building in Missoula on March 8 to witness and participate in official groundbreaking for the new 40,000 square-foot facility. Among those taking part in the ceremony were former librarian Evelyn Swant, representatives of various organizations and groups in Missoula who had supported the library project, city and county government, other libraries in the area, and the library board and staff. State Librarian David Hoffman spoke, calling attention to the leadership role of the Missoula library in the state's library development program, and noting that the first tax-supported library in the city had been established by an overwhelming popular vote almost 80 years to the day before this groundbreaking.

IN MEMORIAM Mrs. Margaret Monmont, librarian at Toole County, Shelby, from 1958 through 1960, and assistant librarian through September 1972, died on February 17.

Clayton "Pidge" Haughawout, bookmobile librarian for the Sagebrush Federation of Libraries, Miles City, died suddenly on March 19.

John A. "Andy" Fisher, former Wyoming State Librarian and former Library Program Officer, Region VIII, U.S. Office of Education, was killed in an accident in Denver on March 3.

Changes come so fast in many fields, that periodical articles are often the only source of current information. In addition to the standard periodical indexes, the Montana State Library has in its reference collection a number of indexes in specialized subject fields.

The Engineering Index is a monthly periodical index of worldwide engineering developments. The subject index also includes related articles of technical interest. An especially useful feature of this index is the brief descriptive abstracts that accompany the subject entries. A separate author index is also included. Photocopies of a majority of the articles are available from Montana libraries or from the Engineering Societies Library in New York.

Another useful index in the State Library reference collection is the Bibliography and Index of Geology, published by the Geological Society of America. This index is arranged under 21 fields of interest, including marine geology, paleobotany, paleontology, soils, structural geology, extraterrestrial geology, mineralogy, etc. A detailed subject and author index are included. Materials indexed cover many foreign publications.

Both of these indexes are windows to the world of current information.

Many librarians and patrons are acquainted with the Monthly Catalog for finding publications available from the U. S. Government. However, there are additional tools that can be consulted for finding government reports that do not appear in the Monthly Catalog. Two such tools are Government Reports Announcements and Government Reports Index published by NTIS (National Technical Information Service).

Government Reports Announcements lists business and economic data and scientific and technical reports prepared for governmental agencies by private institutions or corporations. GRA is published semimonthly.

Government Reports Index, also published semimonthly, is arranged by corporate author, subject, personal author, contract number, and accession/report. The availability of a vast reservoir of materials is brought to the attention of librarians and patrons who are looking for that "hard to find" report published by the government.

All of the above items have been added to the State Library to better its capability to answer reference requests from the libraries of the state, and from state government agencies.

NEW MONTANA BOOKS
IN STATE LIBRARY

A bride on the Bozeman trail; the letters and diary of Ellen Gordon Fletcher, 1866. Edited by Francis D. Haines, Jr. Gandee Printing Center, Inc., Medford, Oregon, 1970. $15.00. Available from Montana Historical Society.

A guide to Montana's custodial and rehabilitative institutions, by the League of Women Voters of Montana, 3220 Country Club Circle, Billings, Mt. 1971. $1.00.

Mammals of Glacier National Park, by R. R. Lechleitner, with illustrations from original pencil sketches by Max Wade Averitt. Glacier Natural History Association Special Bulletin #6, reprinted 1971. Glacier Natural History Association, West Glacier, Mt. 59936. $1.50.

The Northwestern Plains: a symposium, edited by Warren W. Caldwell. First in a series of "occasional papers", published by the Center for Indian Studies, Rocky Mountain College, focusing on the Indians of the northwestern United States. Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Mt. 59101, 1968. $2.00

Wild pitch, by A. B. Guthrie. A light-hearted western mystery. Houghton Mifflin, 1973. $5.95

David R. Hoffman
State Librarian

LIBRARY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES The Graduate School of Librarianship, University of Denver, has announced the following workshops, four-week courses, and short courses for the 1973 summer session; further information may be had from the School, Denver, Colorado 80210:

Connect - Only Connect: The Art of Storytelling (June 11-June 22)
Accountability and PPBS, Accounting Format with Computer Application for School Library Media Programs (July 5-11)
Library Architecture (June 12-July 11)
Human Relations in Library Administration (June 12-July 11)
The Media Center: Theoretical Foundations (July 12-August 9)
Library Mechanization (July 12-August 9)
Planning and Equipping the Media Center (June 25-29)
Media: Selection and Production (July 2-6)

The Graduate Department of Library Science at the Catholic University of America has announced an institute on Federal Library Resources, Services, Programs, Networks, and Data Banks (July 2-13) and an institute on the Federal Legislative Process and Libraries (July 16-27). Further information may be had from Dr. Ann Fox, Director, Institutes in Federal Librarianship, at the Graduate Department of Librarianship, Catholic University, Washington, D.C. 20017.

LIBRARY CONFERENCES The Montana Library Association's 1973 conference will be held at the Holiday Inn West in Billings, May 10-12. President Frances Wells has announced a new conference format, with open meetings of MLA Committees beginning on Thursday afternoon, May 10, and adjournment of the conference following a general session on Saturday afternoon, May 12. Pre-registration information will be mailed within a few days.

The American Library Association will hold its annual conference at Las Vegas, Nevada, June 24-30. A joint committee of the ALA's Junior Members Round Table and its Social Responsibilities Round Table will sponsor a child care center during the conference, for children (ages 3 to 14) of conference attendees; information on the child care center can be had from Rita Kort, 48 Sunset Avenue, Venice, California 90291.

YOUNG READER'S CHOICE AWARD Professor Mae Benne, Secretary for the PNLA Young Reader's Choice Award, and Professor at the School of Librarianship, University of Washington, Seattle 98195, has announced that balloting for the award will not be held in 1972-73. This period will be spent in re-evaluating the Award, its administration, and purpose. The ballot for the following year will carry titles selected from a two-year period.

THE FREEDOM TO READ Copies of the recently revised Freedom to Read Statement of the American Library Association are enclosed with each copy of this Newsletter mailed to a library in Montana. Information regarding purchase of additional copies in quantity is included with the statement.

NEW REFERENCE SERVICES Reference books in the State Library are chosen to make possible efficient ready reference service to libraries in the state. A new addition to the reference collection is the Congressional Index, published by the Commerce Clearing House.

This is a weekly service indexing the activities of the current U.S. Congress. It includes a record, by subject, author, and number, of bills introduced each week. It gives the current status of Senate and House Bills and resolutions, and the voting records of Congressional members on each bill. Treaties, nominations, committee hearings and other current business enacted by Congress are reported weekly. Together with the Congressional Record and the Congressional Quarterly, it provides a current and convenient method of keeping informed on what Congress is doing.